

*Just published,*

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N U M B E R II.

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Truth brought to Light!

O R,

A DESCRIPTION of a most complicated  
Scene of the most HORRIBLE and FALSE  
ACCUSATIONS of



Mr. J. SIMPSON,

of Hox—Academy, London;

With Intent to injure the CHARACTER  
and REPUTATION of the Author.

By JAMES POULSON.

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Sold by the Author at his Academy, Strood; where  
Youth are taught English Grammar, Writing,  
and Arithmetic.

Price One Penny.

FROM the preceding *Narrative* in my first Number, the discerning reader will easily perceive that I have been in *perils* among some of the *false Brethren* belonging to the Strood Meeting; and as Trouble, Persecution, and Slander is hard fare, I may justly say I have received a plenty of it, from the Chief Managers of that *Society*; which I publish to the world as a testimony against them, and as a caution to all other Strangers who may follow after me.

I have made repeated excursions through the principal parts of *England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales*; and have been honored with an *easy* access to persons of the highest rank, from the king to the meanest of his subjects; but I never met, in the whole circle of my travels, such an untoward *generation* of *professors*, with so keen an appetite for Slander and Defamation, as I have met in the society and connections at Strood-Meeting; and were I to stretch my thoughts from *Pole to Pole*, or could I take the Wings of the Morning, and travel with *yonder Sun*, and search the most distant and remote corner of the inhabited world, from *Jerusalem* thro' the extensive provinces of the lesser *Asia*, and thro' the *Southern* parts of *Europe*, even as far as *Spain*, I am certain I could not meet with a similar instance of Cruelty and Injustice as I have met from G—y W——r and his Abettors; the *Greeks*, the *Barbarians*, and the savage polite *Heathens*, would scorn the infamous compliance; nor can I find in *sacred* or *civil* history a case parallel, except in the history of wicked *Haman* to destroy poor *Mordicai*, and *Saul* to take away the life of *David*.

And,

And, is it not astonishing, that Mr. Simp--n (who assumes the character of a teacher), and his wife, should undertake a journey from *London to Strood*, on purpose to accuse a man whom they never had seen before? and if my readers had been present at our interview they might have perceived the symptoms of Guilt and the *Old Serpent* in his countenance; for he could not look up with a good conscience, and say with boldness, *Thou art the man!* but he, with a gloomy countenance affirmed confidently, There is not the least doubt of it. Nor dare this *false Accuser* show his face at *Chatham* on the 20th of January, 1792, being convinced in his own conscience, that his accusations were false and unjust, which he and Captain Bu-n have since been obliged to acknowledge. The particulars of which I shall lay before the public in this number.

And, is it not amazing, that these sons of *Delusion* can, at their pleasure, lay aside all their pretended Christian Charity, in an hour of *wrath*, and falsely accuse and oppress their neighbour? But this is not to be wondered at; for every moving feather, every idle tale, and every false report against the Author, is ready to catch the fancy of these fickle, talkative race; every *doubtful* story entertain their itching and their evil inclinations, and give them some new employment to tell it over again, either from the *Desk* or *Pulpit*, or from house to house: thus many of my Accusers spend their time, like the inhabitants of *Athiens*, in little else but hearing and telling some new thing; some false report to injure their neighbour's good name. Poor creatures! they are to be pitied! because their minds are not stored with better things.

I know there has been a long and a sullen resentment carried on between Greg--y Warn-r and Captain Bu-n, from month to month, with a gloomy silence;



silence; and now and then it has vented itself in spiteful, malicious words, and sly reproaches; at length, the complicated horrid scene appeared in a letter from J. Simp--n to Grego-y Warn-r, *Strood*; containing accusations against the Author, as false and groundless as they are malicious and detestable; the particulars of which are shocking to human nature; nevertheless Captain Bu-n joined him in the wicked scandal, and industriously propagated the false report; asserting with all the malice of his heart, that he would pursue the Author, if he left himself without a *shirt to his back*; so that none of my Accusers can wash their hands in innocency, and pronounce themselves *guiltless*; and, if the Captain's actions were put to the *balance*, he must be found wanting, and all his good works would lie in a very little compass another day.

I know these kind of men are *excessive* fond of Slander and Defamation; they are *quick-sighted* abroad, but too near-sighted at home; they will *hug* and *caress* a false report against persons of a different Name, which is matter of doubt whether the truth is in them or not; and whatever pretensions they make to *excel* others, their actions tell us, that their fallen-nature is still remaining in them, while these meaner powers of the fleshly passions have the sway over them; and it is with intent to put to silence the *impious* clamour of their *false* accusations, that I send forth this and the ensuing numbers into the world.

I told my readers in my first number, that I have no claim to perfection; that in many things I have offended and come short; that I stand corrected for the spots and blemishes of my profession; and from blemishes who are free? I appeal to the public if these unsanctified Zealots are already perfect? Are they more *excellent* than their neighbours? Are they  
free

free from sin, and angels in light? Why should Mr. J. Simp--n and Captain Bu-n give their *pride* and *malice* a loose to ravage over all the defects of an oppressed Stranger, and deny all that is praise-worthy concerning him? Is there not a *mixture* of *good* and *evil* in the best of men? Is Captain Bu-n a perfect man? What, if the Author had been left in the past period of his life to indulge the vanity of a gay, polite natural temper and disposition of mind! Suppose he had been left to comply with the desires of the flesh, and an unbelieving appetite! hath not this been the case with some of his Accusers, and with the best of men in all ages? Why should these *self-righteous* Bigots be so harsh and severe, so hasty and so profuse with their *Censures*, as though something had befallen the Author that is not common to men? Is it because he is of another Denomination? or is it not because their tender-mercies towards him are Cruelty?

What a desperate hard and wicked heart must Mr. Simp--n have, that he could, upon cool reflection, undertake a journey of thirty miles, on purpose to accuse an Individual whom he never knew! What a *contemptible* character it is for a Gospel-minister, or a Professor of Christianity, that of a *false Accuser*! I am sorry I cannot find out language suitable to paint such a character in proper colours, without borrowing expressions from the Prince of Darkness himself, who *transforms himself into an Angel of Light*! and I cannot help thinking but *Belzebub*, the Prince of Devils, hath as many *angelic* and noble excellencies remaining in him, as any false Accuser can presume to have; and if *Lucifer*, the son of the *Morn*, is not entitled to the same share in the Divine Favor as such a person, I am greatly mistaken, unless Divine Mercy interpose.

For the satisfaction of my readers, I shall give a candid

candid description of the false and cruel Accusations of Mr. Simp--n, with intent to injure the Character and Reputation of the Author:

In the month of January last, Mr. Simp--n affirmed, in the house of a reputable merchant at Strood, and in the presence of several credible witnesses, that I came to his house at *Bolton*, in the month of *April* or *May*, 1787, in quest of my two Daughters and a prodigal Son, who had wasted my substance in riotous living; that I brought with me two letters of recommendation, signed by ministers of *Scotland*; that I preached at his Meeting-house, and then proceeded to *Manchester*, *Warrington*, and other Towns adjacent, and preached there also; and in order to make me appear more odious in the eyes of the public, he asserted by letter, that my Daughters, at that time, were keeping a Chandler's shop in London, when I was seeking after them at *Bolton*; and this false and malicious letter Captain Bu-n industriously propagated from house to house as true. Who would think the Captain would thus demean himself, and debase his Character! he might with equal, if not with a greater probability of truth asserted, that his own *Wife* was keeping a Chandler's-shop, or a Green-stall in London, at that time.—My Daughters live retire, and independant, and have done for many years, and they never were at the places my Accusers mention; and, admit they had kept a Chandler's shop in London, that would have been no dishonor to them, nor to the Gospel, nor to their Father. But my readers will easily perceive, this intent was to make me a Liar and a Deceiver. As to a *Prodigal Son*, who they say had wasted his substance, I never had a Son, therefore could not seek after that I never had. Oh! what a scurvy trick have some men for Slander and Defamation. I hope their keen appetite for false Accu-

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sation will be cloyed, and their fashionable vice in them will be moderated by this plain Narrative.

I think the humane Public will look upon the Conduct of these men with Abhorrence and Detestation; especially when I assure them, that I never was at *Bolton*, nor at Mr. Simp---'s house, nor at the adjacent towns which they mentioned; nor did I ever see Mr. Simp---n before that interview at Strood; neither did I ever receive any letters from any ministers in Scotland. The whole is a complicated scene of Malice and Falsehood, on purpose to gratify the Pride and Envy of Greg---y Warn-r, and to destroy the Author's Reputation.

When Mr. Simp---n's Wife was called into the parlour, on purpose to identify my person, she was struck with a kind of trembling, her Conscience being tender and susceptible of impresson; she said, she could not take upon her to say, that I was the person who her husband had confidently asserted came to their house at *Bolton* with the letters.—— Mrs. S.'s candid account was no small disappointment to Captain Bu-n; who said, in the presence of many, that he would persue the Author if he left himself without a shirt to his back; so that my readers may easily perceive what manner of person Captain Bu-n is, and what bitter spirit dwells in him.

I can hardly forbear comparing these men to a swarm of *Wasps* or *Hornets*, who first teize and disquiet us with their disgusting humming, and before we can get rid of them, they fix their painful *Sting* in our flesh; though the vexation they give us cannot procure any advantage to these dangerous and peevish *insects*; neither can the interruption and loss of the Author's Peace and his injured Reputation, be of any benefit or advantage to these men; nor can the pain and vexation of mind, which  
their

their conduct have given to many Christian people in this neighbourhood, be of any benefit to them, nor of any service in the Cause of Religion; unless they would *invert* the language of the Bible, *Shall we do evil that good may come?* God forbid.

I wish I could see these men open to Conviction, or ready to yield to their Faults, I would most readily forgive them, although it is not in their power to countervail the damage which the Author has sustained. One would think such an address as this would awaken their Conscience, if it was tender. What can the humane Public think of these men, notwithstanding all their pretended zeal for religion; if their fellow-mortal had been overtaken in a fault; if there had been spots and blemishes in his profession in time past, should they not have admonished him, and endeavoured to restore him to his wanted privilege in a spirit of meekness? That would have been the part of a Christian; but to devour and to destroy his Reputation is a bad sign of a Christian Disposition.

Perhaps Mr. Simp--n never read in the records of the *Jewish* history, what notice they have taken of false Accusers. The very *Heathens* themselves thought it necessary for the government of the world, and for the safety of mankind, by their *Priests*, to invent a *Goddeß* called *Nemesis*, whose office it was to avenge the practice of violence and false Accusers, and to inflict *Curses* on the head of this kind of *Criminals*; and doth not our civil law make provision for the safety of the Innocent and the Righteous, and inflict punishment on such who unjustly injure their neighbours' good name? Nevertheless Mr. Simp--n and Captain Bu--n, without the least restraint, have violated the rules of Justice and Mercy:—Which leads me to No. III. to my Appeal and Scourge.

23 JUL 62

In No. I. p. 41. 13, the words, "was refused it," were added by mistake of the compositor.